

Town of Rockland  
Patricia S. Pomeroy, Supervisor  
95 Main Street  
Livingston Manor, New York 12758  
January 29, 2002

Ms. Magali Roman Salas, Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
Portals II  
445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, SW  
Suite TW-A-325  
Washington, DC 20554

RE: File No. NSD-L-01-159  
CC Docket No. 96-98

Dear Ms. Salas:

I am writing on behalf of the residents of the Town of Rockland and particularly the Hamlet of Roscoe to express support for the NYS Public Service Commission's request for delegated authority to change the area code in Roscoe.

The Town of Rockland is a small municipality situated entirely within the bounds of Sullivan County. We have two hamlets Roscoe and Livingston Manor. Each hamlet has it's own business district, water district, school district, wastewater treatment facility. The main offices for the municipality are located in Livingston Manor. In order to conduct the day to day business, it is necessary for us to make long distance telephone calls because the municipality is separated by different area codes. This has inconvenienced our residents as well as our employees and added an additional and unnecessary expense for the residents of our community. It has caused problems with the implementation of E911 services and emergency response issues. The delivery of simple government services becomes more difficult because of the different area codes. Elderly people in our communities are burdened by the cost of long distance fees in order to speak with their doctors and pharmacies.

The Roscoe Chamber of Commerce has long fought for inclusion into the 845 area code and has worked in cooperation with the Sullivan County Legislature and Congressman Maurice Hinchey to have this area code changed in order to improve and expand the economic opportunities for the business people in Roscoe. These businesspeople, who because of the different area code are basically excluded from the rest of Sullivan County weren't even listed in the Sullivan County phone book until several years ago.

On a personal note, I also write as the owner of a small business located in Roscoe that has been financially burdened with excessive costs because of the area code. Although the majority of my business is conducted in the 845 area code, the perception that I am located further upstate is a distinct disadvantage. Since 1978, I have actually paid a premium to my 607 carrier of approximately \$80 a month for the privilege of them allowing me to have a foreign exchange line in the 845 area code. This charge is over and above all other costs and will never stop until such time as Roscoe is included in the 845 area code. This option is not available to everyone and is financially punitive.

It is my hope and the hope of the business constituency in my Township that the Federal Communications Commission approves the request by the New York State Public Service Commission for delegated authority to change the area code for Roscoe and thereby allow them to be included in the 845 area code with the balance of Sullivan County.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Patricia S. Pomeroy  
Supervisor

Cc: Ms. Carnell Weathers, Federal Communication Commission  
Hon. Charles Schumer, United States Senator  
Hon. Hillary Clinton, United States Senator  
Hon. Maurice Hinchey, Congressman, 26<sup>th</sup> Congressional District  
Hon. John J. Bonacic, Senator, 40<sup>th</sup> Senatorial District  
Hon. Jacob E. Gunther III, Assemblyman, 98<sup>th</sup> Assembly District  
Hon. Raymond N. Pomeroy II, Chairman, Sull. Co. Legislature  
Daniel L. Briggs, County Manager  
Ms. Jacquie Leventoff, President Sull. Co. Chamber of Commerce  
Mr. Eliot Kornhauser, President, Roscoe Chamber of Commerce  
Cheryl A. McCausland, Deputy County Attorney

